



The
**Irish-Canadian
Rangers**

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THE IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS



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BY THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN
IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS.

FOREWORD

to the Officers and men of the

IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS

There is no doubt that many of you will be surprised to find that the original manuscript has not been published, but after careful consideration on the part of many concerned it was decided to leave out all reference to the political side of the situation. Perhaps it is best that the book should be what it is—a plain History of the Irish-Canadian Rangers.

Unfortunately, I have been obliged to leave out the Introduction, on account of having to hurry the production to accommodate some of those who have been kind enough to assist me financially, without whose assistance the publication would have been impossible. This omission will, I know, be regretted by you all, but Sir Charles Fitzpatrick's splendid article herein included will make up for a lot of regrets.

I have been obliged to omit, also, the Appendix, on account of the reluctance

of some of the principal characters to have their names included. In this connection I beg to express my thanks to those who have assisted me, especially Lady Williams-Taylor, Lady Hingston, Mrs. Henry Joseph and Miss Hurlbatt.

A great effort has been made to include in this volume much matter that was eventually found to be impossible to collect on account of unforeseen events and circumstances over which those who assisted me had no control. In compiling the information contained herein, I have been very ably assisted by Dr. E. J. Mullally, Major E. H. Knox-Leet, Major Campbell Stuart, Capt. Weir, Capt. Dohan, Capt. Doyle, Capt. Balfour and Mr. Hearn. No effort has been made to make this volume a financial undertaking or a literary contribution, but a plain record of the various incidents in the formation of your military units, as they occurred without reference to what they might mean politically or otherwise. If, in its present form, the volume is acceptable to you, then my mission has been fulfilled.

“CIVILIAN.”

Dec. 1st, 1916.

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H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT
Patroness of the Battalion that bears her name.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
OTTAWA.

1916.

I am very much pleased that
the fine Battalion of Canadian Irish Rangers
which has been raised at Montreal is
now bearing my name.

I feel sure that the Battalion will
maintain the high traditions of our
own Irish Regiments, and that it
will distinguish itself in the future.

Louise Margaret.

THE PARENT REGIMENT

THE reader is no doubt thoroughly familiar with the situation in Canada upon the Declaration of War. Canada, content to follow the paths of peace, thought little of war. Her population, drawn largely from the British Isles, had turned their thoughts from the Old World race of armaments to their new occupations in a new land. New interests and prosperity had taken up their thoughts to such an extent that the Declaration of War found them literally *at sea*. Yet it is doubtful if any other country as far removed from the thoughts of war and lacking any system of National Service could have done better in the early days of the war. After passing through the purging fires of the first few days of war, she took her stand unconditionally by the side of the Mother land. Within seven weeks she raised and equipped the finest army that ever went across the Atlantic, an army that a few months later at Langemarke

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added a page of glory to her name that the all-conquering rust of the centuries shall never destroy. It contained the cream of her manhood—Canadians, English, Irish, Scotch, French and representatives of every friendly nation within her borders.

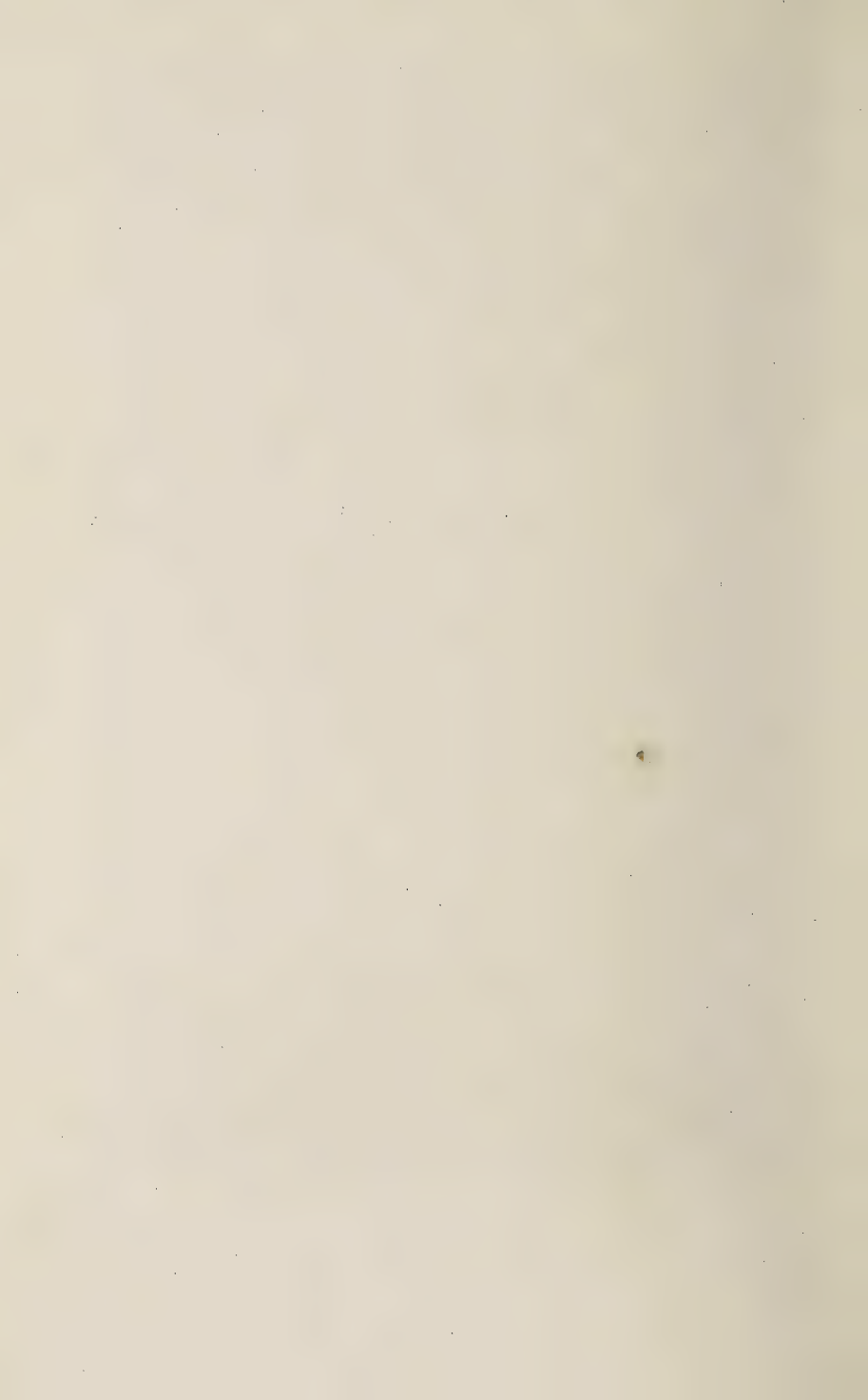
Every branch of our citizens joined hands to further the cause that we had taken up. The Militia of the country took the initiative by providing many of its members for overseas service and by parading our streets, instilling the martial spirit in our younger generation by its music and the tramp of marching men. Canadian Rifle Regiments and Grenadier Guards, Scotch Highlanders and French Infantry Regiments added hundreds of their countrymen to their standards by these efforts. But, alas! through the perversities of the past and through reasons that few can explain, the Irish, the finest fighting race on the earth, had not a single regiment in the land.

Nevertheless, hundreds of Irish-Canadians found their way into the ranks of the first army. Collectively, they are lost, but individually they are playing their part nobly; their valor, while adding



LT.-COL. H. J. TRIHEY

Officer Commanding Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian
Rangers, formerly C. O. of the 55th Regiment, and principal
organizer of the Irish-Canadian Rangers.



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new lustre to the fair name of Canada, is being recorded on scrolls not their own. Perhaps this fact more than any other was in the minds of the men who first took upon themselves to raise an Irish-Canadian Regiment.

In August, 1914, the first steps were taken to form an Irish-Canadian Regiment. Prominent Irish-Canadians met and discussed the advisability of applying to the Militia Headquarters for a permit to raise a regiment of active militia. Many discussions, however, took place before any decisive steps were taken. The whole situation was discussed from many angles. The financial situation at that time was not favorable to the raising of funds for the proposed campaign. Some men were even skeptical of the success of the movement; nevertheless a committee was formed and active measures taken. At a meeting held in Mr. Trihey's office, a few days later, it was agreed to proceed at once with the securing of the permit and the formation of a regiment of active militia, afterwards known as the 55th Irish-Canadian Rangers. The

THE IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS

original Committee consisted of the following gentlemen:

Mr. H. J. Trihey,
Mr. M. J. McCrory,
Hon. C. J. Doherty,
Mr. C. F. Smith,
Rev. Gerald McShane,
Mr. W. M. Weir,
Mr. W. P. O'Brien,
Mr. James McCrory,
Mr. Edgar Reynolds,
Mr. W. P. Kearney,
Dr. J. S. Dohan,
Dr. E. J. Mullally.

From that date vigorous measures were taken. Meetings were held in industrial centres, parish halls, etc. Clergymen were interviewed, Hon. Mr. Doherty, Mr. Trihey, Father McShane and Mr. C. F. Smith made public speeches exhorting Irish-Canadians of every class and denomination to fill the ranks of the new regiment. Recruiting offices were opened and a very desirable class of men presented themselves for enlistment.

Although there were some who claimed that the Irish-Canadian people



MAJOR M. J. McCRORY

of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers,
formerly of the 55th Regiment, and one of the original
organizers of the Irish-Canadian Rangers.

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would not be drawn together in such a way as to give a regiment their own proper support, yet it was found from the very beginning that they were ready and willing to work together. This was clearly demonstrated by the manner in which they supported the new regiment. In addition to those who took up enlistment, many rendered invaluable services in other ways.

Nearly all of the original committee took up commissions in the 55th.

Mr. Trihey became Officer Commanding.

Hon. Mr. Doherty became Hon. Colonel.

Mr. O'Brien became Senior Major and second in command.

Messrs. Reynolds, McCrory, Weir, Dohan and Kearney took up Captaincies.

Dr. Mullally became Medical Officer.

In addition, the following well-known gentlemen applied for commissions:

Rev. W. H. Hingston,
Hon. W. J. Shaughnessy,
V. J. Hughes,
H. J. McKeon,
E. H. Knox-Leet,

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G. Dillon,
F. A. McDonald,
G. S. Balfour,
E. G. O'Brien,
P. C. Dwyer,
H. R. Hingston,
E. V. Hall,
J. P. O'Connor,
C. J. Hanratty,
L. M. Doyle,
A. E. Murray,
P. J. McCrory,
J. E. McKenna,
P. J. M. Connaughton,
J. A. Creasor,
J. H. Maher,
J. T. Hackett,
R. S. Morphy,
H. O. C. Fitzgibbon.

The Montreal public had by this time become interested in the new regiment, and steps were taken to hold a parade at the earliest possible date. In November the first parade was held. The Rangers, 300 strong, accompanied by the band of the 65th Regiment, and headed by Lt.-Col. Trihey and Hon. Col. Doherty, marched through the principal streets and met with a



REV. GERALD McSHANE, D.D.

One of the original organizers of the 55th Irish-Canadian Rangers.

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very fine reception from the populace that lined the thoroughfares. Some were inclined to be skeptical, but the majority expressed their surprise and appreciation by the applause they gave. When the Rangers returned to their Armory more than twenty-five recruits were waiting to be sworn in.

After the first parade and all through the winter of 1914-15 men came forward and sought enlistment. An exceptionally fine type of men were secured by the M. O., as he had many to pick and choose from, and could afford to refuse admission to men who were unable to meet every requirement of the military standard.

On April 24th, 1915, the Irish-Canadian Rangers were inspected by H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, on Fletcher's Field. The Regiment turned out for its first public function in full uniform. With its complement of over 400 men, its own band of 40 pieces, its own drum and bugle band and its squad of eight stretcher bearers, it had a tremendous advantage over its first appearance. On this occasion they again came in for much applause from

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the citizens and many compliments from military men.

A very amusing incident happened while H. R. H. was walking down the ranks of the regiment. In one of the companies a man had enlisted who had a pronounced impediment in his speech. By one of those strange coincidences H. R. H. stopped in front of this man and asked his name. The unfortunate fellow who found it difficult to articulate under normal conditions, was so excited that he could only make unnatural sounds, whilst the redness of his face denoted the state of his mind. The Duke thinking that he had not been heard, again asked the man his name; and again the poor fellow tried to tell him but could not. When the Duke was further along the lines, an explosive effort in articulation from this man gave his nearby companions to understand what his name was.

That night the Rangers had their first Mess dinner, at the Ritz-Carlton. Among the guests on that occasion was Major Papineau of the Officers' Training School, Halifax.

The Roll Call of the 55th Irish-



FIRST OFFICERS CLASS OF THE 55TH REGIMENT

Left to right—Top Row: Mr. W. M. Weir, Mr. G. G. Hearn, Dr. Dohan, Rev. W. H. Hingston, Mr. Edgar Reynolds
(Major John Long, instructor).

Bottom Row: Mr. P. C. Dwyer, Mr. W. P. O'Brien, Mr. H. J. Trihey, Mr. M. J. McCrory.

THE IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS

Canadian Rangers on April 24th, 1915,
was as follows:

55th IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS

OFFICER COMMANDING

Lt.-Col. H. J. Trihey

Hon. Col. C. J. Doherty Major W. P. O'Brien

Edgar T. Reynolds, Captain-Adjutant

Chaplain, Capt. Hingston Quartermaster, Capt. Dillon

Medical Officer, Lt. E. J. Mullally

Paymaster, Captain McCaffrey

"A" Company

Capt. M. J. McCrory,

" H. J. McKeon,

Lieut. F. A. McDonald,

" R. S. Morphy,

" J. T. Hackett,

" J. H. Maher,

" J. A. Creasor.

"B" Company

Capt. W. M. Weir,

" W. J. Shaughnessy,

Lieut. P. C. Dwyer,

" E. G. O'Brien,

" G. S. Balfour,

" J. P. O'Connor,

"C" Company

Capt. V. J. Hughes,

" W. P. Kearney,

Lieut. H. O. C. Fitzgibbon,

" A. E. Murray,

" L. M. Doyle,

" H. R. Hingston,

" C. J. Hanratty,

"D" Company

Capt. J. S. Dohan,

" E. H. Knox-Leet,

Lieut. G. J. Hearn,

" E. V. Hall,

" P. J. M. Connaughton,

" J. E. McKenna,

" P. J. McCrory.

Battalion Sergeant-Major, Frank Street.

Rank and file, 424 men.

THE OVERSEAS COMPANY

IN the spring of 1915 Col. Gascoigne, of the Victoria Rifles, was authorized to raise the 60th Overseas Battalion, and he conferred at once with the Commanding Officers of the various city regiments in reference to the recruiting of a company by each of the regiments for the new battalion. The Grenadier Guards, Victoria Rifles, Westmount Rifles and the Irish-Canadian Rangers each agreed to make themselves responsible for the recruiting of a company, these companies to retain their individuality within the battalion.

The 55th took the matter up energetically and was rendered very valuable assistance financially and otherwise by prominent Irish-Canadian civilians.

"C" Company, or the Irish-Canadian company, was recruited to a large extent from the parent Regiment. Many of the N. C. O's graduated from the ranks of the 55th. Among them were



HON. COL. CLARENCE SMITH

One of the original organizers of the Irish-Canadian Rangers.

THE IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS

Sergeant-Major Bryant, Quartermaster-Sergeant Corbin, and Sergeant Weyman, all since wounded in action, together with a considerable number of the rank and file. Through the organization of "C" Company between 300 and 400 men were recruited for the 60th; over 70% of them were of Irish descent. In addition, the Officer Commanding and three other officers of the company were formerly officers of the 55th Regiment. When they left for Valcartier the company was well over strength, under command of the following officers:

Capt. E. H. Knox-Leet, Officer Commanding.

Capt. John Donnelly, Second in command.

Platoon commanders: Lieuts. J. P. Dunlop, Ernest McKenna, J. A. Creasor and Harold Hingston.

Supernumeraries: Lieuts. Harold Gallen, H. B. Walker and Fred. Archibald.

To the Irish-Canadian Rangers fell the honor of raising the first body of Irishmen that ever went across the Atlantic to fight for the British Empire.

THE IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS

Although it was only one company, yet it marked a distinctive phase in the work of the new alchemy of war.

The 60th sailed from Montreal on November 5th, 1915, and proceeded to the Training Camp at Bramshott, whence it went to France as part of the Third Division. As the purpose of this book is to record the work done at home, the career of the 60th Battalion and of "C" Company must be left to the historian of the future. Yet it is hard to omit mention of the gallant fight they put up in the second battle of Ypres.

In this action and several days subsequent to it every officer of the Company became more or less a casualty, although the only officer killed was Lieut. Harold Gallen.

Lieut. Gallen was a most capable and gallant officer. He originally came to the Company from the Grenadier Guards for instruction, and was assigned, in the absence of the regular commander, to No. 10 Platoon. Ultimately, for several reasons—breakdown in Officers' health and other causes—he went to France actually in com-



Review of the 55th Regiment by H.R.H.



Duke of Connaught, April 24, 1915.

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mand of the platoon, and died leading them in the early days of June. Capt. Knox-Leet speaks in glowing terms of this gallant young officer.

Lieut. J. A. Creasor particularly distinguished himself and was honored by His Majesty the King, by the presentation of the Military Cross for specially daring reconnaissance under fire.

It is of interest, perhaps, to note the number of Irish officers in the 60th, apart altogether from "C" Company. Major Evans, second in command, is Irish on his mother's side, and a connection of the late Charles Stuart Parnell.

The late Capt. the Hon. Fred. Shaughnessy, who commanded "A" Company, was a brother of Capt. the Hon. W. J. Shaughnessy, of the 55th, while his second in command, Capt. Rene Redmond, and Lieut. Beckett, his subaltern, were both well-known young Irishmen.

Major J. V. O'Donohue was perhaps one of the best known of the younger Irish-Canadian business men in Montreal.

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The original Commanding Officer of "D" Company, the late Capt. Vessey, was also of Irish descent, being a member of a well known West Meath family.



MAJOR W. P. O'BRIEN

2nd in Command of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian
Rangers, formerly 2nd in Command of the 55th Regiment,
and one of the original organizers of the Irish-
Canadian Rangers.

THE OVERSEAS BATTALION

ALMOST immediately after the departure of the Overseas Company, the Irish-Canadian Rangers began to discuss in embryo an Overseas Battalion. Once the ranks of the overseas company had been closed to the men of the 55th, they began to drift into the ranks of the various units then in formation for overseas; besides many were finding their way into the Composite Battalion, and it was felt at that time that the situation demanded immediate attention. In order to ascertain what the feeling of the officers of the Regiment were on the subject of an overseas battalion, and to be able to form an opinion of what support such a battalion would be liable to receive, a slip of paper was passed around to each of the officers, bearing the following questions:

1. "If an Overseas Battalion is formed, will you support it in any way you can?"

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2. "If an Overseas Battalion is formed, will you enlist?"

These slips were handed in to the Officer Commanding, and in answer to the former question it was found that every officer offered his support. With regard to the second question, it was equally encouraging; every officer who could do overseas service offered to enlist. In addition, offers of financial support came freely from prominent Irish-Canadians, especially from those who had assisted the parent Regiment. Great moral support came also from the prominent Irish Societies of Montreal. Almost immediately after the authorization of the Battalion a monster demonstration was held in their behalf, at the Windsor Hall, by the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society and St. Patrick's Society and presided over jointly by the presidents of the above societies.

Authorization was procured in Feb., 1916, the Battalion to be known as the 199th Irish-Canadian Rangers C.E.F., under command of Lt.-Col. H. J. Trihey.



CAPT. W. M. WEIR

O. C. of the 55th Regiment, and one of the original organizers
of the Irish-Canadian Rangers.

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The following officers reported at once for duty:

Major W. P. O'Brien, Second in command.

Captains M. J. McCrory, V. J. Hughes, E. T. Reynolds, Hon. W. J. Shaughnessy, Campbell Stuart, J. J. Nelligan.

Lieutenants E. G. O'Brien, G. S. Balfour, L. M. Doyle, G. S. Fogarty, R. T. Hogan, G. J. Hearn, D. A. McDonald, M. T. Trotter.¹

The N. C. O. class was opened in March, and more than 50 men from the 55th Regiment joined this class, which was under the personal direction of Battalion Sergeant-Major Street. Within six weeks the battalion possessed 36 qualified officers and a full quota of N. C. O's.

The question of general recruiting was then taken up and it was felt that new methods would have to be employed in order to draw good men to the ranks of the battalion, as there had been many calls on the manhood of the City during the past eighteen

¹ Note—The following officers have since joined the Battalion: Capt. Knox-Leet, Lts. St. Clair McEvenue, W. J. Murray, B. M. Watson, W. F. McGovern, J. C. McClusky, N. R. Murphy, Walter M. Kavanagh, C. J. Hanratty, J. J. Kavanagh, J. P. O'Connor, H. A. Doheny, B. A. Neville, L. C. Drummond, E. B. G. Buchannan, S. B. White, J. H. Foley.

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months; and many of the adventurous spirits of the city had long since joined the Great Adventure. A recruiting committee was formed, under command of Capt. Campbell Stuart, assisted by Lt. G. S. Balfour, as Adjutant of Recruiting, and took up their headquarters in the Drummond Building, whence they moved later to larger quarters at 314 St. Catherine St. West.

Commencing with May the 1st, the Battalion started general recruiting with the standard before them of not only enlisting men, but of taking into the ranks of the Battalion men who would stand up against the conditions which they would have to undergo, and would not be an expense to the country, as has been the case with many battalions recruiting for overseas. With this object in view a high standard was set from the outset and has been maintained, and results have shown that this particular battalion has probably had a larger number of rejects in proportion to its recruiting than any other battalion recruiting for overseas. In addition, to particularly sound the call to arms to the Irish



ORIGINAL OFFICERS
55TH IRISH CANADIAN RANGERS
1916

THE IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS

people and impress them with their responsibilities towards Canada in this great struggle, and above all the responsibilities towards themselves, the platform of the recruiting organization, while immediately interested in the purpose of enlisting Irish-Canadians, at the same time set out to stand for everything that was in the best interests of the community, and to endeavor to create a public opinion which would be above everything else helpful to the cause of every unit.

The problem of recruiting a battalion for overseas is a very great one these days, when it really constitutes itself an educational campaign.

The 199th Battalion followed certain precedents of other battalions by issuing posters for the purpose of publicity. The first poster was designed to symbolize the make up of the new unit, consisting of a large maple leaf in autumn occupying the centre of the poster flanked by shamrocks. In the center of the Maple Leaf are shown two young soldiers grasping hands pointing to a legend, "Small nations must be free."

The second poster was a map of

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Ireland bearing the legend, "All in one in the Irish-Canadian Rangers." This poster particularly exemplified the purpose of the battalion, uniting the people of the North and of the South in the common cause against a common foe.

The third poster was typical of the sportsman side of the Battalion and indicated that there was a place in the Battalion for men of this class in no unmistakable terms.

The fourth poster was typically Irish, representing the Irish country boy marching away to war from his cottage and calling upon his countrymen to join.

The fifth poster was a reproduction of the famous painting of a soldier's mother, bearing the legend: "Fight for her."

The sixth poster showed a soldier in the King's uniform standing on the slope of Mount Royal looking towards the harbor filled with the necessary transports ready to take troops overseas, bearing the inscription, "We go next."

In addition to this every street car



MAJOR E. H. KNOX-LEET

of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers, formerly
Capt. of the 55th Regiment, and Officer Commanding "C" Company
the Irish-Canadian Rangers Overseas Company with the 60th Batt.

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in Montreal bore within and without for some considerable time descriptive matter of the Battalion, in fact wherever the eye could reach, something indicative of the fact that such a unit was organizing for overseas could not fail to be seen.

For the purpose of directing meetings in what was thought to be the most effective rallying ground in the City of Montreal, field fortifications similar, as far as possible, to those in the firing line were constructed on Dominion Square, and opened on May the 5th. The old square, which has played so historical a part in the city, underwent a further transformation. The two old cannon which date back to the Crimean War have been surrounded with earthworks, sandbags and many ingenious devices used in modern warfare. As far as possible these fortifications have been built to show the method in use at the front, and have attracted a very large amount of attention. Thousands of citizens and visitors have visited these works, and by the establishment of a recruiting station in the bomb-proof shelter, many recruits have been secured.

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In addition to devoting itself to the aforementioned forms of publicity and to the public platform, a census was taken of men of military age in the City of Montreal, and by dividing the recruiting detachment into teams under an officer, these particular individuals were interviewed and the results tabulated. The country was also travelled through and largely circularized, but it was felt that the chief purpose was to be able to say that in seeking for recruits apart from Montreal it had not in any way neglected its own territory, and a striking result of this programme has been borne out by the fact that over ninety per cent. of the Battalion has been recruited in the City of Montreal itself.

Without question the most powerful assistant the Irish-Canadian Rangers had in their campaign for recruits was the Press, but instead of following the procedure laid down by other battalions and advertising extensively, the Rangers endeavored to so conduct their campaign that it would create news that would be of interest to the press itself to publish, and in this manner has



CAPT. THE HON. W. J. SHAUGHNESSY

Adjutant of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers, formerly of the 55th Regiment.

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certainly secured as much publicity as any other battalion organizing for overseas, without the expenditure in this regard of a single dollar. Consistent with the policy of creating news that would be of interest to print and above all in the desire to elevate public opinion in the interests of all concerned, the Irish-Canadian Rangers held meeting after meeting on Dominion Square that were reported nationwide, and in fact in many of the leading dailies of Great Britain and the United States.

Among those who have spoken in the interests of the Irish-Canadian Rangers have been:—

Sir Sam Hughes, who announced that the Battalion would go overseas as a unit and at the same meeting authorized the use of the name of "Kitchener's Own" by the 244th Battalion.

Dr. Michael Clarke, whose utterances in the House of Commons on the fact that the war should go above politics in the criticism of national

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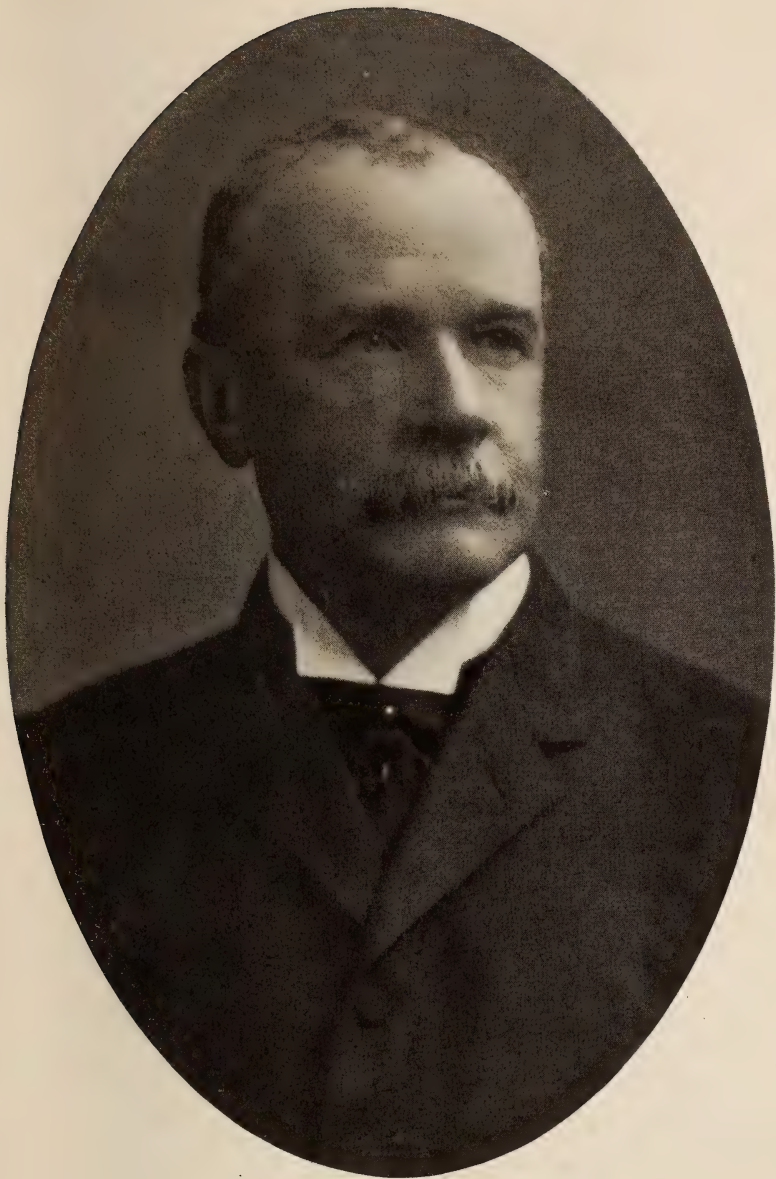
affairs, delivered a stirring and eloquent appeal.

Sir Thomas White, whose conduct in the Finance Department of this country has unquestionably been one of Canada's greatest achievements in this war at home.

Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice, whose unfailing interest in the Battalion never flagged from the year the parent regiment was organized, and who delivered address after address, not only on Dominion Square, but in the Irish quarter, and whose particularly famous oration on Place d'Armes laid down the law as regards the holding of recruiting meetings and the distinction between the civil and military authority throughout in this regard.

The Rt. Reverend John Cragg Farthing, Lord Bishop of Montreal, was one of the first to make a clear and definite call for conscription on the Irish-Canadian Rangers' platform.

Sir Thomas Esmond, the distinguished Irish Nationalist Member of Parliament, who construed constructive nationalism, from the Irish Rangers'



RIGHT HON. SIR CHARLES FITZPATRICK,
G.C.M.G., K.C.M.G., P.C., K.C.

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who made many stirring appeals to
Irish-Canadians to join the ranks of the Duchess of
Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers.

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platform, as defending Ireland by the force of arms.

Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, who time and again appealed to his fellow countrymen to rally to the standard of Canada.

Sir Hamar Greenwood, Bart., one of the members of Lord Derby's Committee, who urged the people of Canada to emulate the people of Ireland in this war in regard to recruiting.

The Hon. G. P. Graham, ex-minister of Railways and Canals, who himself a North of Ireland man, referred to the great example this battalion would show to the outside world as to the attitude of Ireland in the day of National trial.

Reverend Principal Smyth, of the Wesleyan Theological College, who through his association with the Irish Rangers' platform was made a Major and Chaplain of the forces, appealed time and again for recruits, he himself having offered to serve with the Battalion, but not being accepted.

Father Gerald McShane, D.D., who

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time after time appealed in his eloquent Irish manner for the cause.

Mr. J. K. L. Ross, Chairman of the Pensions Committee, described the details of the Pension Act for the first time.

In order to carry out the programme of helping the cause in general, and showing appreciation of the great work of the sister service, the Irish-Canadian Rangers organized a grand demonstration in Montreal for the British Navy, and side by side with their brothers in arms marched through the streets of Montreal to Dominion Square, where eloquent and appropriate discourses were delivered, appreciative of the great work done by the senior service. This was the first occasion on which British sailors have been seen under arms in the streets of Montreal during war time. It is doubtful if in all Canada has there ever been a more largely attended recruiting meeting than that which was held on this occasion under the auspices of the Battalion. Fully 20,000 people turned out to welcome the sailors of H. M. S. Carnarvon, who marched



MAJOR CAMPBELL STUART

Paymaster of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers,
formerly Chief Recruiting Officer, who organized many successful
recruiting meetings for the Battalion.

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through the streets to Dominion Square, 200 strong, accompanied by their own band, their field gun and ship's mascots. Senator Beaubien, Lt.-Col. Williams, Chief Recruiting Officer, Major the Rev. C. A. Williams and Mr. R. C. Smith, K.C., paid glowing tribute to our peerless sailors.

The women of Montreal were also organized by the Irish-Canadian Rangers for the purpose of assisting in recruiting, and a special brooch was given to each woman who secured a recruit, these brooches bearing the words, "I helped to serve" in contrast to the regimental badge bearing the words, "I offered to serve," given to each recruit turned down as medically unfit for overseas service and not being up to the high standard of the Battalion.

In addition to this the women took the platform and addresses were delivered by Lady Williams-Taylor, Professor Carrie Derick, Miss Hurlbatt, Warden of the Royal Victoria College, Mrs. W. G. MacNaughton, Mrs. Williams Reid, Mrs. Henry Joseph, Madame

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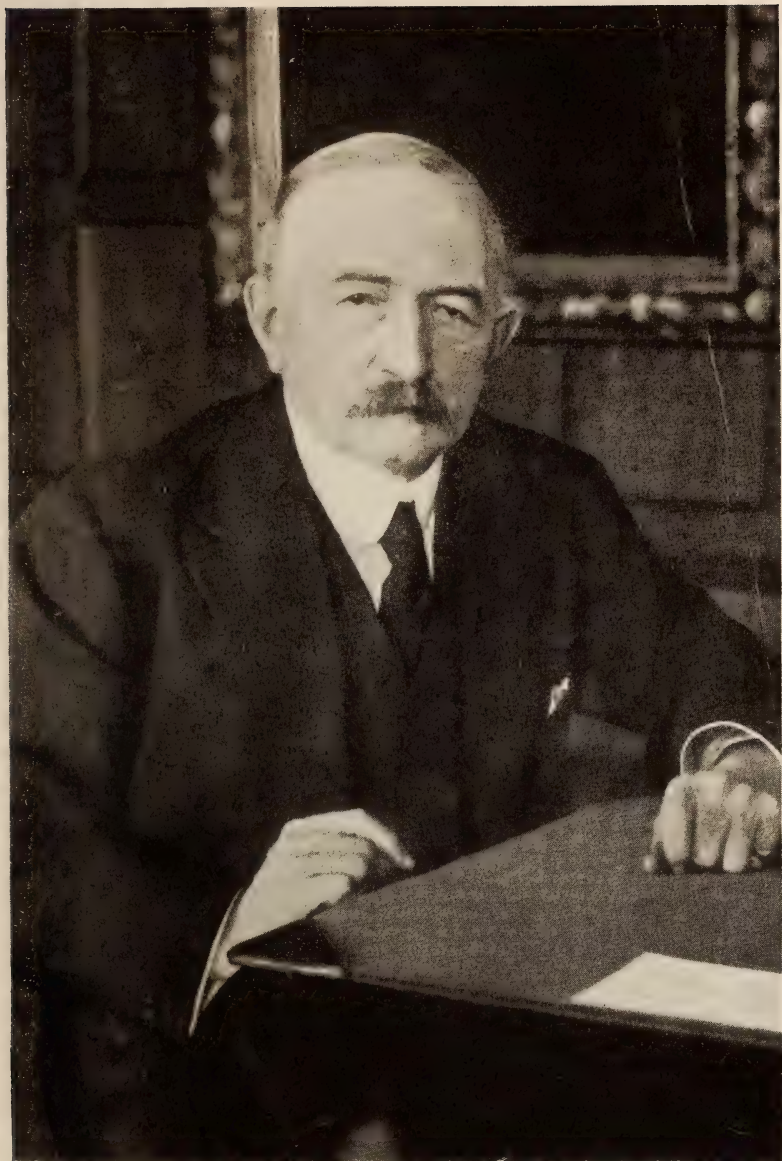
Donalda, Canada's prima donna, and Mrs. E. L. Wren.

The Battalion received much assistance at the hands of Lt.-Col. Williams, Chief Recruiting Officer of the Dominion of Canada, who, as well as Major Williams, himself an enthusiastic Irishman and Chief Recruiting Officer for the 4th Division, supported the Battalion in every possible way at the outset of its organization and addressed innumerable public meetings on their behalf.

The Battalion, which had now become known throughout all Canada, received a signal honor when Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught, preparatory to leaving this country, desired that her name should be borne by the unit, which was in future to be known as "The Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish Canadian Rangers."

One of the first public functions the Battalion attended was on the occasion of the presentation of the colors by St. Patrick's Society.

In the midst of a brilliant throng, on the Champ de Mars, on June 15th, the President of St. Patrick's Society



LORD SHAUGHNESSY, K.C.V.O.

whose unfailing interest in the Irish-Canadian Rangers was
shown in many ways.

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presented the King's and Regimental Colors, which had been given by the Society to the Battalion. In making the presentation the President declared that it was the proudest day in the history of the Society, and added that he felt sure that they would be brought back from the front covered with glory.

Sir Chas. Fitzpatrick on this occasion gave an eloquent address. He said in part:

"You have no concern with what has happened anywhere else. You are going forward to maintain the honor of the Canada we love so much, for it is the duty of every Irishman to show that he appreciates the good government of Canada and to fight for a country that has given you all so many privileges."

On June 16th the Battalion Officers held a banquet at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, where many appropriate addresses were given.

Rev. Gerald McShane, in a great speech, proposed the toast to the "Soldiers of Canada." The Hon. Mr. Doherty, in response to the toast, said

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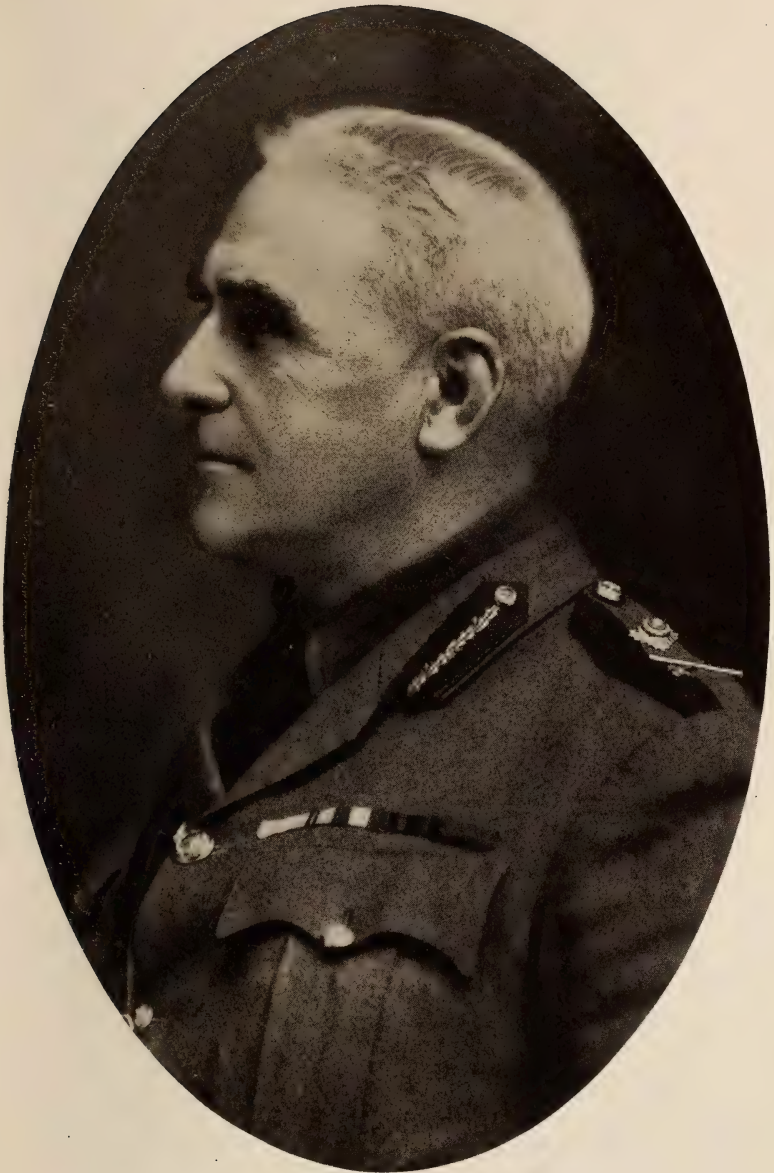
that "to those who had answered the call and sealed the compact with love for Canada with their hearts' blood, he paid tribute of grateful remembrance."

Speeches were made by Rev. Principal Smyth, Col. Fages and others. Major-General Sir Sam Hughes paid a brief visit, but through stress of business had to hurry away. The Battalion left the next day for Valcartier.

One of the most impressive and beautiful ceremonies ever held in Canada attended the depositing of the colors of the Battalion in St. Patrick's Church on July 2nd.

Amid all the traditional ritual of the Church and the Army, Father McShane and the Wardens of the Church received the King's and Regimental Colors for safe-keeping in holiness and security until they were again claimed by the Battalion. Father McShane, from the chancel steps, made a beautiful address. He said in part:

"In the name of the authorities of this Church, of its priests and people, I promise that we shall faithfully keep our sacred trust. We shall guard and



LT. GEN. THE HON. SIR SAM HUGHES

who spoke on behalf of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian
Rangers on Dominion Square, and announced that the
Battalion would go overseas as a separate unit.

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treasure these flags with jealous care until, if God grant it, you return, victorious, to claim them."

The Battalion returned from Valcartier after its period of training and took up its quarters in the Guy Street Barracks, preparatory to leaving for overseas. During its stay it secured a number of recruits to replace those rejected at the final medical examination.

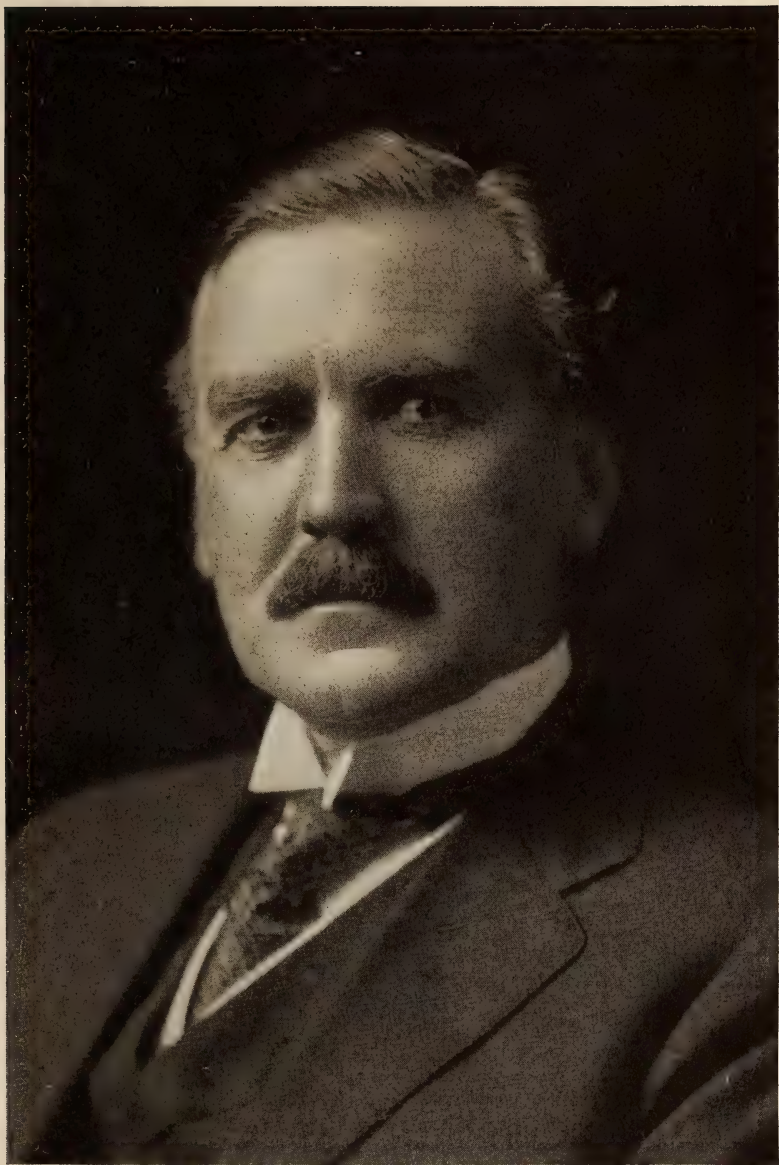
On October 11th, H. R. H. the Duchess of Connaught, while en route to England, inspected the Battalion and presented it with Camp Colors. The flag, which was made by H. R. H. herself, is a beautiful piece of embroidery, on blue silk, of her own monogram, "L. M.," surmounted by a royal crown in the centre, and shamrocks in the corners.

In making the presentation, H. R. H. again expressed her admiration for the Battalion and her confidence that it would live up to the high traditions of those who had already won honor on the field.

In conclusion, the Commanding Officer, the Officers, Non-Commissioned

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Officers and men of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers, and of the 55th Irish-Canadian Rangers, desire to express their appreciation of the services rendered to them by the people of Montreal during the past two years.



THE HON. SIR THOS. WHITE, K.C.M.G.

Minister of Finance, who took the stand on behalf of the Duchess of
Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers, and
appealed for recruits.

“QUIS SEPARABIT?”

Comrade, you have stood before
The colors and have made your vows
To guard aright, in peace or war,
The honor that the cause allows.

Hold then yourself beyond reproach,
Love ye the game beyond the prize,
And let no niggard fears encroach
Or foolish anger blind your eyes.

Honor the foe that fights you fair,
Respect him though you run him through,
For only manly deed shall share
The garlands Fate shall weave for you.

Time only can to you reveal
The light that 'cross the future lies,
But naught can from your heart conceal
The meaning that yon text implies.

“Quis Separabit?”—it is writ
Across your path in words of fire,
Clear as the morning light, for it
Is old as Nineveh and Tyre.

God's love surround you, and sustain
You, if your weary footsteps lag,
And hold before your face again
The words that burn on yonder flag.

“Quis Separabit?” it shall shine
For you in light on Helicon,
Revealing yet the cause sublime
That ye have laid your honor on.

“CIVILIAN.”

After “Clifton Chapel.”

Quis Separabit (Who will Separate), the motto of the Irish-Canadian Rangers.

IRELAND'S EFFORT

BY SIR CHAS. FITZPATRICK

A British General, also an Irish patriot, was the first and the most persistent warner of England, not indeed to flee from the German wrath to come, but to fit herself to face it. In 1871, Sir William Butler, in "The Great Lone Land," told the story of his visit to the vast north, with Toronto for his base, Toronto still young enough to need description as "the flourishing Capital of Ontario." And even then and there he could not get the German menace out of his mind. The Franco-German war was still something more stirring than a memory. It was a sore on the heart of an Irishman; and this particular Irishman's bitterness of spirit at the defeat of France found a muttered utterance on his front page. He recalled Cobden's honest peace-predictions and Prince Albert's, preparing the path of the aggressor, and then of Germany he wrote: "It is not at all improbable



CAPT. GEO. S. BALFOUR

Chief Recruiting Officer of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian
Rangers, formerly of the 55th Regiment.

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that even at that tranquil moment a Great Power, now very much greater, had a very firm hold of certain wires, carefully concealed, the pulling of which would cause a hundred million of men to rush at each other's throats. Nor is this supposition rendered the more unlikely because of the utterance of the most religious sentiments on the part of the Great Power in question."

In public and private this Irishman sounded, and usually to deaf ears, the same forebodings of a monster war of German aggression. He even embodied them in a booklet describing a German invasion of our shores. But nobody read it, because nobody read the great signs and portents which it registered. It was the old story of British inability to believe in the baseness of others, especially of their German cousins. "I admit," Pitt had written in effect to Wilberforce during the war with Napoleon, " I admit that England was unprepared, and that I am to blame; but *I never thought he could be so wicked.*"

So, too, the England of to-day had a better opinion of the Kaiser than the Kaiser has cared to justify. His very

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kinship to Britain's Royal House secured for him a measure of confidence. A witty Irishman has said the word—it was inconceivable that Queen Victoria could be the grandmother of Antichrist. Sir William Butler has not lived to say, "I told you so." That would have been a vain glory. The great regret is that he did not live to witness Ireland's part in the undoing of those German designs he had sensitively foreseen; that he did not hear the word of Ireland spoken by the mouth of John Redmond once that wanton war was declared. In the British House of Commons, on the 3rd day of August, 1914, the German Ambassador, lurking for the last time in the Ambassadors' Gallery, listened unmoved to Sir Edward Grey's forecast of the morrow's final rupture, but visibly darkened when the Irish leader rose to declare that the war united Irishmen and more than that united Ireland and England. Outside, his words found instant echo. Perhaps Canon William Barry best expressed it for the mass of his countrymen: "Believing as I do that the Supreme looks



MAJOR THE REV. PRINCIPAL SMYTH

of the Wesleyan Theological College, Chaplain of the 4th Division, who rendered great assistance to the recruiting staff of the Duchess of Connaught's Own Irish-Canadian Rangers.

Major Smyth has since accepted the Protestant Chaplaincy of the Battalion.

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with a benevolent eye on this Empire which, in spite of enormous faults, remains the home and hope of Freedom, how shall I not recognize a special Providence in the passing of Home Rule before the trumpet sounded? What could more grandly close the strife of seven centuries than the bold act of Erin's taking the sword, not to smite but to defend her oppressor? The warm Irish heart has inspired the most Catholic deed in Irish annals." Mr. Redmond's words became flesh, every comma of them turned into a recruit. At the beginning of the year 1916, one hundred and forty-six thousand men from Ireland were serving in the army, and for every volunteer from Ireland itself came a fellow Irishman from England, Scotland or Wales. Let Mr. Redmond record how these semi-exiles came forward: "At least 150,000 Irishmen have enlisted in Great Britain. This means that, not including Irishmen from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, we have 300,000 Irishmen with the Colors, an Irish army in the field to-day as large as the entire standing army of

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Great Britain before the war. It is a magnificent achievement. There are some people who seem to think that Ireland, having raised this magnificent army, will desert it. Such a course would be abhorrent to the nature of our people and the history of our nation."

Ireland's subsequent exclusion from the rule of National Service binding on the rest of the United Kingdom was a recognition of this "amazing" volunteering—the adjective is Mr. Birrell's and a fulfilment of Mr. Chesterton's fine saying that no sane Englishman would ask an Irishman to fight except for Irish ideals. If one of Ireland's ideals is voluntary service, she realizes it now by consent of the Allied Nations. Alone in Europe she is free of the conscript. If there is considerateness on the part of the majority of the united peoples in this unique concession, be sure that it has full recognition. Again Mr. Redmond is the speaker: "We, having our country excluded from a Conscription law binding on Great Britain, would cover ourselves with disgrace if that immunity did not



LT. GEO. HEARN
Machine Gun Officer.

CAPT. THE REV. W. H. HINGSTON
Chaplain.

CAPT. BRANNAN
Medical Officer.

CAPT. O'LEARY
Quartermaster.

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create a new obligation upon us to give a generous response to the volunteer appeal."

Cardinal Manning, great Englishman and great lover of Ireland, once said that he scanned the Police Court reports in his morning paper to note the name of any Irishman in trouble. It seemed part of his pastoral office to follow these strayed sheep of his flock with a paternal sigh that was itself a prayer. To-day his "One of mine!" would be more proudly uttered over Irish names in those newspaper columns: Kenny and Cotter and Kenealy and Hogan and Dease and Dwyer and O'Leary and Cosgrove and O'Brien and many another, all names of recipients of the Victoria Cross for valor: for valor such as made Sir Arthur Conan Doyle say in particular of O'Leary's, that no novelist would have dared attribute such feats to any of his heroes.

The Bishop of Raphoe sees in German methods, "the outcome of a new paganism." The Bishop of Derry knows that "the issue at stake is whether men in their dealings with men shall be governed by the law of God,

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or by the power of a brute force." The ideals of Ireland at home—here then, we have them. What pastoral letters express Irishmen on the field enforce in such feats as those of the Connaught Rangers and the Inniskillens in Macedonia, of the Dublin Fusiliers at Suvla Bay, of the Irish Guards at Mons and Ypres and Loos, of the Dublins, Munsters and men of Connaught at Ginchy. The name of Loos is linked with one of those minor incidents which often in memory outlive larger episodes. The story goes that the London Irish at Loos, calm as courageous, dribbled a football before them as they advanced through a hurricane of shot and shell from their own trench to the Germans.

So it comes to pass that at last words and deeds jostle one another on the page of history; jostle one another from the Bishop's bench and from the Soldiers' trench. Captain William Redmond, M.P., in the firing line is his brother's living word, and he himself speaks in the pauses of bomb and cannon: "The Irish troops are here to



How the Irish fought at the Battle of Loos.

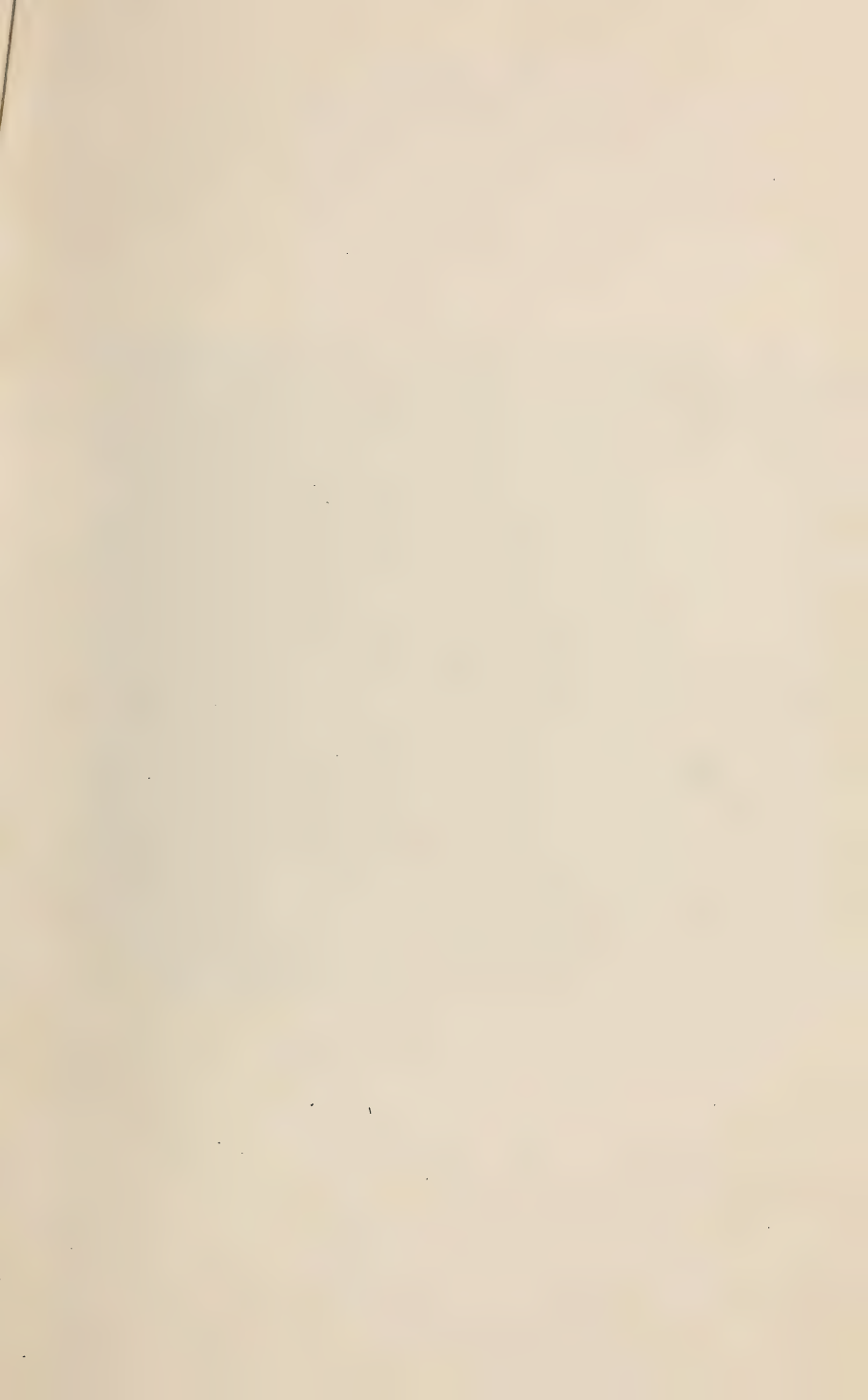
I R E L A N D ' S E F F O R T

protect all that Ireland cherishes.' ' Lesser issues, impassioned though they are, may be ignored. Dividing lines at home are lost in the line of battle. "War has brought peace to Ireland—political peace," is the testimony of Dublin's Lord Mayor though Dublin may seem to be in the throes; and a Protestant Bishop gives a note of unity strange to his tongue: "We make no distinction between Unionist and Nationalist when we speak with pride through our tears of their deeds in action. We do not forget that the first Irish chaplain to be killed in the war was the Catholic chaplain of the Dublin Fusiliers." What John Redmond himself saw at the front has confirmed him in his faith in Ireland's future. "It has been the most thrilling and the proudest week of my life," he said. "I found the Irish troops full of confidence and cheerfulness; and in one part of the trenches I came across a thing which filled my heart with hope. I found a battalion of the Ulster Division from Belfast side by side with the Dublins. I spoke to them all. I found that they were true comrades

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and brother Irishmen. I pray God that wherever an Irish Battalion goes into action there may be men of Ulster among them. Let Irishmen come together in the trenches and risk their lives and spill their blood together and there is no power on earth that will induce them to turn upon one another when they come home."

And unity within Ireland itself stands for the larger unity of Ireland with Great Britain and the Empire. Liberal politicians do not need to be told that; and Mr. Walter Long, of the older Unionists, admits that "the Irish soldiers have created a new claim for Ireland, and have won the affection, the gratitude and the respect of the Empire." And, of the younger men in that party, Colonel Sir Mark Sykes has said the inspiring word: "The War has made the difference." That is his faith. All England, irrespective of party, will give with both hands to Ireland any measure of Home Rule which Irishmen will agree among themselves to accept. That new and moving spirit found spontaneous expression in the House of Commons when an English Labor Member



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cried, "God bless Ireland," and Mr. Redmond retorted, "God bless England, too!"

Among Nationalist Irish ideals, of which England is in effect the guardian, let us not fear to place toleration. For that too is an English trait. Hard friction between herself and Catholic Ireland has taught England many a lesson which indeed professors of private judgment should not have needed to learn; and there is elsewhere a pertinent passage in illustration of England's fairness to a Faith not officially her own, which I will repeat: "Think of it—the British Empire to-day holds as many Bishops in communion with Rome as sat at the whole Council of Trent. Think of it—there are as many English-speaking Catholics in the world now as Catholics in all Christendom at Christendom's 'flowering - time' — the time of the last Crusades. And just as in Rome were more Jews than in Jerusalem at the time of the Crucifixion, so now in London are more Catholic communicants on Sunday mornings than in Catholicism's own capital—in papal Rome. Go to the great Missionary College at Mill Hill

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and learn that Catholic England is moreover a mighty gospeller to the heathen; the Superior-General of that one single College will tell you quite simply that he has more than two hundred Fathers now out on their distant Missions. Ask Quebec, with all her old-time religious rights and privileges guaranteed to her under our flag, if she would change it. Ask Malta with its State Catholic Church. Ask Maynooth, the State-endowed nursery of the priesthood of a nation. Ask the Oratorian at South Kensington, or the Jesuit at Farm Street or the Carmelite in Kensington, and all will tell you that they fare better in Babylondon than in their birth-lands, Italy and Spain. Ask all the Empire over, priests and nuns expelled from lands that ought to know better, ask for the name of the land of their religious freedom. Ask the hundreds of Catholic Chaplains with the troops, officers of the King, maintained by his Treasury, or supplied by the Governments of Canada or Australia—martyrs to duty among them like Gwynn of the Irish Guards; men



"B" COMPANY, OFFICERS AND MEN, DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS.
MAJOR E. H. KNOX-LEET IN COMMAND.

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like Fahey, who gained the D.S.O. at Gallipoli."

Ireland preserved in tribulation the Catholic Faith until the exercise of it found freedom under the English flag—freedom and (as in Canada, Malta and at Maynooth) even favor. From Ireland the Cross has gone forth under British auspices to uncovenanted conquests. The Irish emigrant bore it to British Colonies where his religion made him none the less welcome: "The strong man bore it to the western prairies and into the canons of snowy sierras; the maiden brought it into the homestead to be a future dower to her husband and a legacy to her children. And the Church of Patrick arose o'er all that vast new world of America from where the great St. Lawrence pours its crystal tide into the daybreak of the Atlantic to where California flings wide her golden gates to the sunsets of the Pacific!" (The Light of the West, by General Sir William Butler.)

From Ireland radiates that Light of the West to lands far larger than her own. Her centre of gravity has, as it were, been shifted. If the garden

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of Eden is lost as a site in the world, the Garden's ancient doings continue to order the destiny of man. Ireland as a land cannot be lost; though she now wanes in much that makes a country great. But Ireland, the new nation overseas, the nation that has its place wherever English pioneers have found a foothold, increases year by year in numbers, in dignity, in power. It has space to enlarge; and it has also incentives to enlargement that merely mundane men cannot know. It refuses to be any longer "hag-ridden by heredity"—the hereditary memories of old unhappy far-off things and battles long ago. It is free of the old conditions so cramped that escape from them meant a rebounding expansion. In 1801 Ireland held (on hard terms of a hand-to-mouth existence, nearly five-and-a-half millions of inhabitants while the rest of the United Kingdom counted but ten-and-a-half millions. In 1907, the date of the last census, Ireland had under four-and-a-half millions of inhabitants, and her neighbors forty-one millions. The Irish question at home is thus a dwindling one; the Irish question overseas all the while.



"C" COMPANY, OFFICERS AND MEN, DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS.
MAJOR E. REYNOLDS IN COMMAND.

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waxes. There is a Greater Ireland as well as a Greater Britain. This is one of the truths that the most cruel war in history has done us the kind service of bringing to full recognition. The war that forced fighting on the unwilling nations of Europe has created between Irishmen and Englishmen new ties. And with new ties necessarily come new duties to the members of a now undivided Empire. The response of Ireland's scattered sons has already exceeded all dreams of dreamers; nor is the tale yet told. So shall it be set down among the paradoxes of history that the wildest war-maker has also made peace between partially estranged but kindred peoples. Kaiser William, as Reconciler, has made ours the United Kingdom in more than word—let him have the blessing on the peace-maker at that! and in unity at home, after long friction, may be discerned promise as well as achievement—the beginning of that federation of peoples which shall yet realize the English ideal, the Irish ideal, because the Christian ideal, of the brotherhood of man.¹

¹ This aspiration is also Belgium's as expressed by Cardinal Mercier: "We are no longer in the days of the Old Testament, which tolerated the law of retaliation. Our lips, purified by the fire of Christian charity, shall not utter hate. With us nation concord is allied with universal brotherhood." (Sermon preached in his cathedral at Brussels on the National Fête Day of Belgium, 1916.)

IRELAND'S EFFORT

Lord Edward Fitzgerald (himself keen to serve King George in the Royal Irish) told his "dearest dearest mother" in one of his letters: "I think of nothing but being a good soldier." In fulfilment of this wish to "enter into the true proper spirit of a soldier, without which spirit a military life is, and must be, the devil," he went to New Brunswick with his regiment without saying the good-byes that might have ended in his staying at home. That was the occasion of the visit to Canada which nearly changed his fate in love and therefore in life.¹

Back in Ireland, which has still its separate Parliament, Lord Edward's thought went again to politics—the politics of England were against the France that Ireland loved. "Grattan's speech last night was the worst doctrine ever laid down," we find him saying, "that Ireland is bound, right or wrong, without inquiry to support England in any way she may undertake."

How has to-day justified the Irish

¹ He wrote home in 1794: "The Canadians are good people, and of course I like them. There was one family at Quebec very pleasant and very good to me—a mother of two pretty daughters. However, it did not last long, I tell you, because it was the only kind feeling I have had for a woman since I left England. I wish it had lasted a little longer."

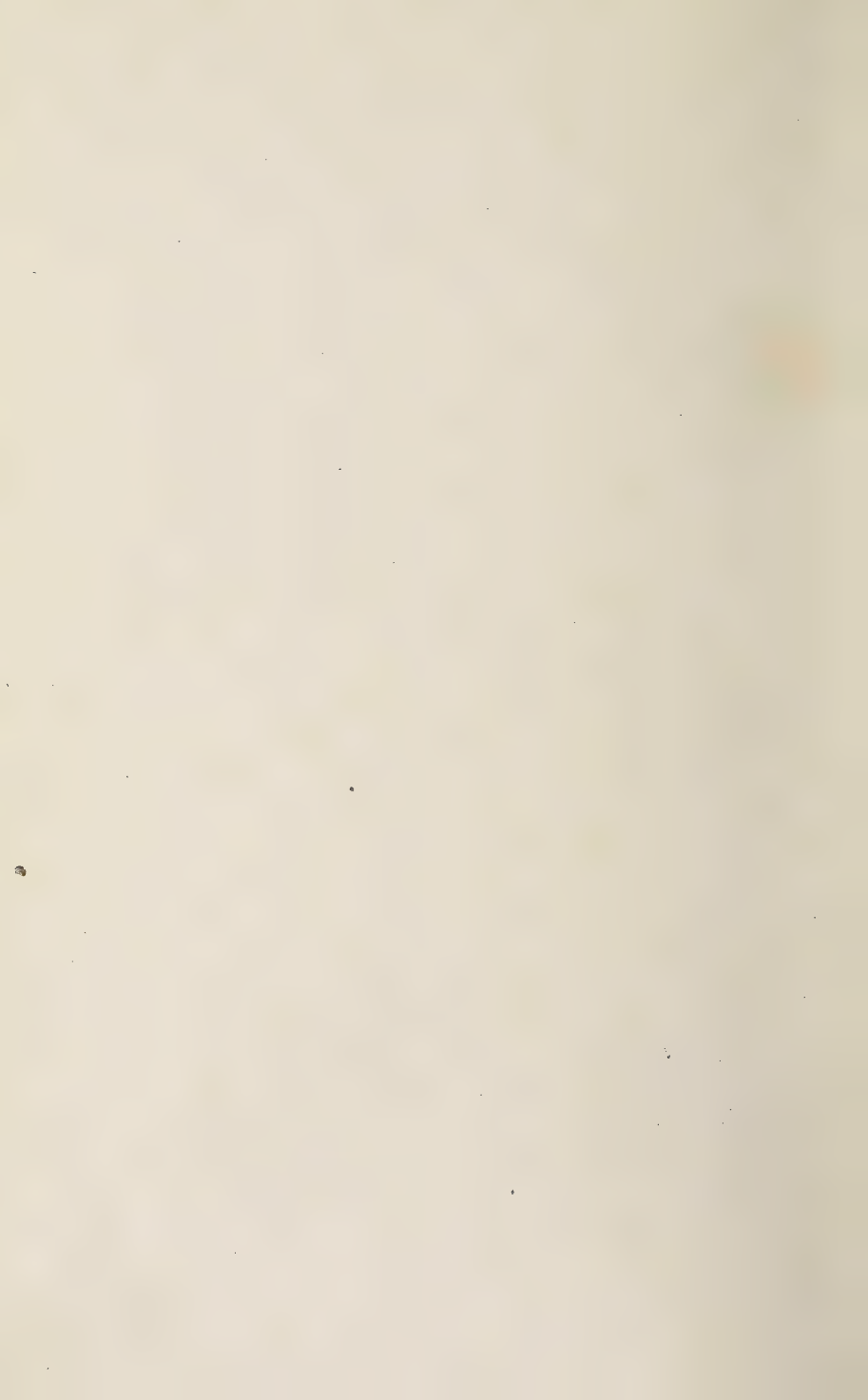


"D" COMPANY, OFFICERS AND MEN, DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS,
MAJOR M. J. MCCRORY IN COMMAND.

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patriot of 1794! Patriots everywhere have flocked to the standard of the Allies, France at last one of them, and a United Parliament, more gracious than Grattan, has left Irishmen conscript-free amongst the peoples—free to strike for freedom.

By such episodes and by such contrasts we measure the progress made by England and by Ireland on the difficult journey now proceeding to a common goal. Greater Britain—for many a year the phrase has been familiar, but now at last the fact. England finds she has been no loser by “the greatness of her goings-forth”—by the sons she has sent to make new and free peoples, exacting no levies on them for men or for money, and they, in turn, keeping open house to all comers. Side by side with Greater Britain stands that Greater Ireland the war also has revealed. Side by side they stand or fall together, stand in thanksgiving as victors and fall together on the field where victory is won.





"E" COMPANY, HEADQUARTERS STAFF, DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS.
LIEUT. GEO. HEARN, OFFICER IN COMMAND.



BAND OF DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN IRISH-CANADIAN RANGERS.





